GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2622
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2007
LEATHER CLUSTERS
Channappa Shri Kunnur Manjunath

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to identify leather industries as a cluster ;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to extend financial assistance to the leather clusters;

(d) If so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of artisans working in the leather clusters in the country;

(f) whether the Government has set up any training centre to provide training and encouragement to the workers in the leather sector; and

(g) If so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) & (b): The major production clusters of leather industry already identified are Chennai, Ambur, Ranipet, Vaniyambadi (Tamil Nadu), Kanpur, Agra and Noida (UP), Kolkata (West Bengal), Jalandhar (Punjab), Bangalore (Karnataka), Gurgaon, Ambala and Faridabad (Haryana).

(c) & (d): Under IIUS scheme financial assistance of Rs. 9.75 lakh and 43.94 lakh was provided for upgradation of infrastructure of Leather clusters of Kanpur and Ambur respectively. During 10th Plan period under Infrastructural Strengthening of Leather Sector scheme, two production clusters Chennai and Kolkata were provided financial assistance of Rs. 14 crore and Rs. 10 crore for setting up of Footwear Complex and Footwear Component Park at Chennai and Rs. 5 crore for Leather Goods Park at Kolkata. In the 11th Plan, Government proposed to set up Integrated Leather Parks in various leather clusters.

(e): It is estimated that about 0.90 million artisans are engaged in manufacture of footwear, footwear components and small leather goods in the cottage, household segments in the unorganized sector.

(f) & (g): Yes, Sir. The Government has set up training institute like Footwear Design and Development Institute (FDDI), Noida, Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI), Chennai, Central Footwear Training Institute at Agra and Chennai, International Institute for Saddlery Technology and Export Management (IISTEM) at Kanpur for training of professional for leather industry. A branch of FDDI is being set up at Fursatganj, to meet the requirement of trained personnel of leather cluster of Kanpur and Unnao. In addition, short term training courses are conducted in various parts of the country depending upon demand and feasibility.